



*Fee purpose only*

PATENT  
IMAGE

Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/3083.P7/PDC/PDCIOR

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Reginald Hunter §  
Serial No.: 09/685,191 §  
Confirmation No.: 5577 §  
Filed: October 6, 2000 §  
For: Method and Apparatus to  
Provide for Automated Process  
Verification and Hierarchical  
Substrate Examination §

Group Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: Zandra V. Smith

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on November 18, 2003, with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
Nov. 18, 2003 Date	<i>A. R. Hunter</i> Signature

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 18, 2003**

In response to the Office Action dated August 18, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 18, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/3083.P7/AOP, \$172.00 for excess claim fees, and any additional amount for other fees, including extension of time fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.